

Nevada State Veterans Home  
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Boulder City, Nevada 89005  
(702) 332-6784 • Fax (702) 332-6762

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor



Department of Veterans Services  
6900 N. Pecos Road, Room  
1C237  
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89086  
(702) 224-6025 • Fax (702) 224-6927

Northern Nevada  
Veterans Memorial Cemetery  
P.O. Box 1919  
Fernley, Nevada 89408  
(775) 575-4441 • Fax (775) 575-5713

STATE OF NEVADA  
**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS SERVICES**  
5460 Reno Corporate Drive, Suite 131  
Reno, Nevada 89511  
(775) 688-1653 • Fax (775) 688-1656

Southern Nevada  
Veterans Memorial Cemetery  
1900 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Boulder City, Nevada 89005  
(702) 486-5920 • Fax (702) 486-5923

## Minutes

Name of Organization: **Women Veterans Advisory Committee (WVAC)**

Date and Time of Meeting: **October 22, 2014 (9am-12pm)**

Meeting Location: **VBA Conference Room**

*Members of the public were able to participate in person at the Veterans Benefits Administration Building, 5460 Reno Corporate Dr. Reno, NV 89511 or Nevada Department of Veteran Services Office 6900 N. Pecos Rd. N. Las Vegas, NV 89086*

### **\*Call to Order**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Davis calls meeting to order at 9:17am due to technical difficulties

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Deputy Director Gerald

ROLL CALL: Chairman Davis calls roll for official members.

**Members present include:** Anne Davis, Roberta Pike-Oates, Anthoneal Newman, Sharlee Smith

Member Lesli Ellis-Wouters has moved and is no longer a part of the committee. Recruiting for a rural member is in progress.

Non-council members present during Roll Call include: Yvonne Betron, Willette Gerald, Carol Simenson and Lucia Garces.

Members of the public in attendance: Ashlie Gordon joined the meeting at 11am.

**Motion to approve agenda:** Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve agenda, Sharlee Smith seconded. Agenda was approved by unanimous decision.

**Motion to approve previous minutes:** Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve 9/03/14 minutes. Sharlee Smith seconded. Minutes approved by unanimous decision.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** none

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Confirmation was given that the Final interim report was sent by Kat Miller to the Governor's Director of Veteran Policy, Caleb Cage.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Discussion was held regarding how to communicate with women veterans. The suggestion was made to advertise through various means such as PSA's, Newspapers, Social Media and a phone line for veterans to call. Deputy Director Gerald will check with NDVS IT personnel to find out the viability of a dedicated phone line. The message to be used was agreed upon as follows: "Women and Men of the State of Nevada, have you ever served in the military? If so, you may be eligible for benefits. Please call (dedicated phone line number)". The group discussed including a disclaimer on the sign. The committee noted the possible use of volunteers or vocational rehab to return calls received. More information is needed on the viability of using volunteers as well as any security/privacy concerns. Deputy Director Gerald agreed to contact the appropriate offices to get additional information. Anne Davis will begin preparing a list of contact people and phone numbers to be used when returning phone calls to those who respond to the message. This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.
- Bobi Oates discussed the contact that she had with other Women Veteran Committees. She said that the other committees stated that the Nevada Committee is on the right track and doing the same things that they are in their respective states.
- Discussion was held regarding how to approach unique populations to include incarcerated vets, homeless vets, suicide, LGBT etc.
  - Willette Gerald will update the committee on anything that comes up in the Incarcerated Veterans Committee Meetings.
  - It was agreed upon that the committee would consider offering support and assistance to all veterans, to include unique populations, in the final report. Committee members were asked to consider the wording of such a statement. .
- Ashlie Gordon from United Health Centers spoke to the committee about Tri Care in relation to VA care. It was discovered during discussion that Tri West

does have a contract with the VA for outsourced care. Charley Smith will find a contact for Tri West to invite to a future meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Next meeting is set for January 7, 2015 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** none

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Davis made a motion to adjourn, Charley Smith seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

DRAFT